

NOV 20 2001

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY.'S DOCKET: ZUCKER-FRANKLIN-17

In re Application of:) Art Unit: 1655
ZUCKER-FRANKLIN, et al.) Examiner: C. WILDER
Serial No.: 09/543,782) Washington D.C.
Filed: April 6, 2000) November 20, 2001
For: ASSAYS FOR HUMAN T-CELL)
LYMPHOTROPIC VIRUS)
TYPES I AND II)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Prior to examination of the above-identified
application, please enter the following Preliminary Amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1 and 2 without prejudice or
disclaimer and enter the following new claims:
11. (New) A method for screening healthy blood
donors or potential blood donors for carriers of diseases or
conditions related to at least one of HTLV-I and HTLV-II
infections comprising:

testing a sample from the donors or potential donors
for the presence of a DNA which encodes the HTLV-I tax protein
or the HTLV-II tax protein;

wherein a positive test for the presence of a DNA
which encodes the HTLV-I tax protein or the HTLV-II tax
protein indicates the presence of:

- a. at least one of HTLV-I or HTLV-II tax protein;
- b. DNA which encodes at least one of HTLV-I or

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